

REMARKS

By paper filed November 9, 2005, applicants elected Group I, i.e. claims 1-20. That election is hereby affirmed.

Further, responsive to the communication from the Examiner dated January 18, 2006, applicants hereby elect, as a species of the core layer, a reaction gas containing methylsilane and nitrogen, i.e. system (1) as shown at the top of page 12 of applicant's specification. Further, as a species of the reaction system forming a cladding, applicants hereby elect a reaction gas containing methylsilane and nitrogen oxide, i.e. shown as gas (17) near the bottom of page 12 of applicant's specification.

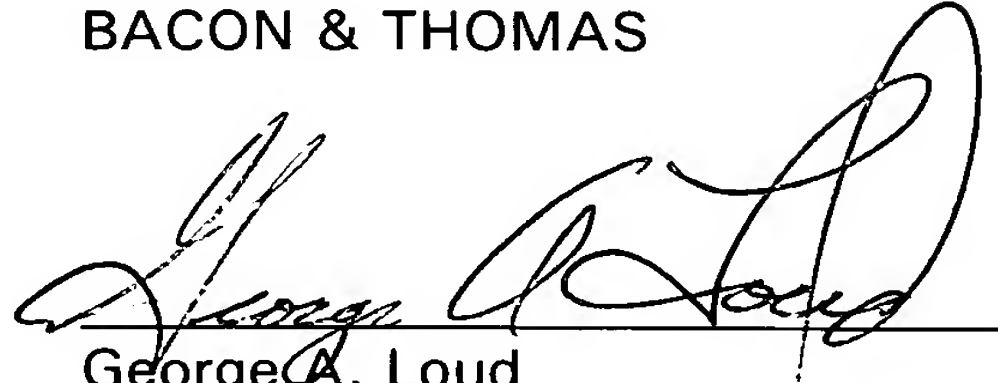
As taught at page 9, line 26 to page 10, line 4 of the specification, the core layer of the presently claimed invention may be either silicon nitride or silicon oxy-nitride and the cladding layer may be either silicon oxide or silicon oxy-nitride. At page 12 various reaction systems are disclosed for each of the silicon nitride, silicon oxy-nitride and silicon oxide layers as recited in newly added claims 25-29.

It should be noted that as used in applicant's specification, the term "methylsilane" is generic to monomethylsilane etc. See page 10, lines 11-15 of the specification and the language of original claims 3 and 9.

It is respectfully submitted that pending claims 1, 3, 4, 13, 14, 16, 17, 21, 25, 27 and 28 read on the elected species.

Respectfully submitted,

BACON & THOMAS

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George A. Loud", is written over a horizontal line.

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February 17, 2006

Date

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